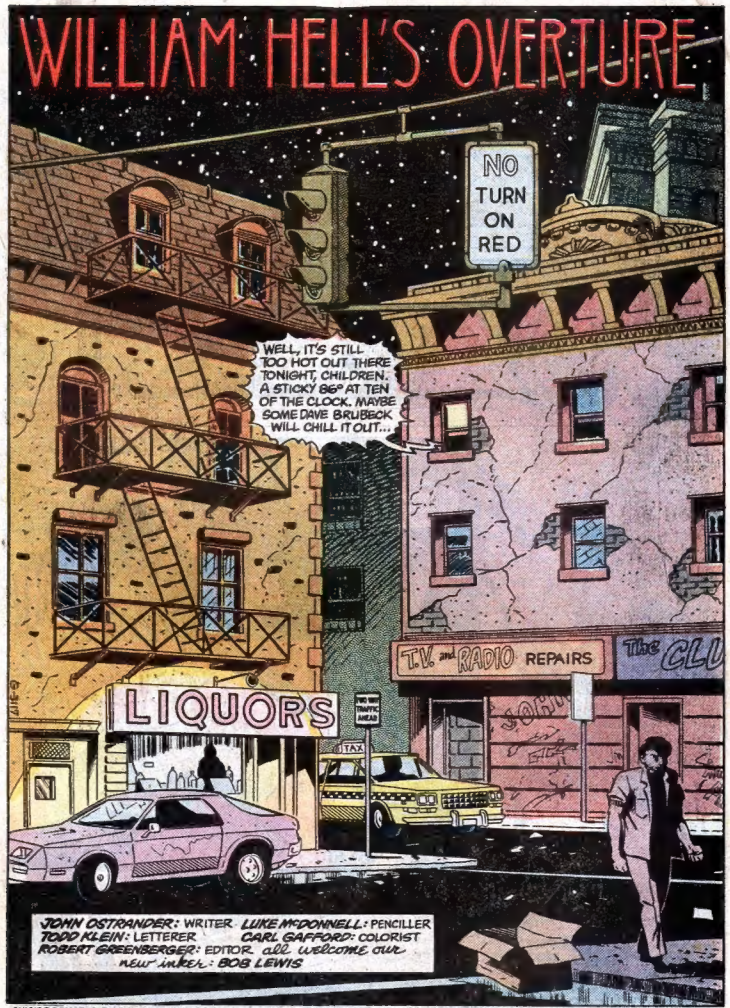
DC
SUICIDE SQUAD™
75¢
4
AUG. 87
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
WHO BROUGHT A CITY TO ITS KNEES?
70989 31202
08
0

WILLIAM HELL'S OVERTURE



SUICIDE SQUAD 4- Published monthly by DC Comics Inc., 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10103. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SUICIDE SQUAD, DC Comics Inc., Subscription Dept.P.O. Box 1981, New York, NY 10185. Annual subscription rate $9.00. Outside U.S.A. $11.00 in U.S. funds. Copyright © 1987 DC Comics Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof are trademarks of DC Comics Inc. Advertising Representative: Print Advertising Representatives Inc., 355 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10017. (212) 391-1400. Printed in U.S.A.
DC Comics Inc. A Warner Communications Company

GET INDA CAR! GET INDA CAR!
HOW MUCH WE--?
DRIVE!
STOP YOU PUNKS!
DROP MY MONEY OR I'LL DROP YOU!
OUR MONEY NOW, OLD MAN.
BLAM!
UH!
GO! GO! GO!
LIQUORS
BAM
SCREEEECH

WHAT WE GOT-?
I'M COUNTIN'!
FIFTY HERE!
SCREEECH!
VROOOM
SHOULDA GRABBED SOME SIXPACKS. I'M DRY...
WHA' TH' HELL...?
CLIK
KRANGK!
FWOOMP!
GAAAAH!

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING

DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE ARYAN EMPIRE HAS ITS HEADQUARTERS, PUNK?
ANSWER ME, DAMN YOU! WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME!
..YEA...YEAH. SURE. 47th AND CICERO.
TAKE THE OTHER WHITE KID AND GET OVER THERE AND SIGN UP. THAT OR THE COPS.
BUT, WHY'RE YOU..?
THAT'S THE COPS! IF YOU'RE GOING, GO!
AND THE DEVIL HELP YOU IF YOU DON'T SHOW UP!
WOO! OOOOO...OOO OOO!
EVENING, OFFICERS.
YEAH, THIS'S THE CAR INVOLVED IN THAT LIQUOR STORE ROBBERY. HEARD THERE WERE FIVE OF THEM, THO.
THIS IS ALL I FOUND, OFFICER.
WGRC NEWS
DERE WAS TWO MORE, MAN! HE...
AHHH, PUT A SOCK IN IT, PUNK!
MARTA WILLIAMS, WGRC NEWS, MR. HELL. THIS MAKES YOUR TWENTIETH ARREST SINCE YOU FIRST APPEARED TWO WEEKS AGO.
WHAT BROUGHT ON THIS SEEMINGLY VERY PERSONAL CRUSADE?
5

I AM ONLY A COMMON MAN, MS. WILLIAMS, FIGHTING FOR THE SAKE OF OTHER COMMON MEN IN THIS TROUBLED COMMUNITY.

HOPEFULLY, I CAN BE A SYMBOL TO THEM SO THAT, BY UNITING TOGETHER, WE CAN OVERCOME THOSE WHO WOULD DESTROY OUR HOPE, OUR PEACE, OUR WAY OF LIFE.
NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...

COMMON MAN OR SYMBOL, PERHAPS WILLIAM HELL IS EXACTLY WHAT THIS TROUBLED NEIGHBORHOOD NEEDS--- A HERO.

THIS IS MARTA WILLIAMS FOR WQRC NEWS.

THUMP

GOOD PATROL, SIR?

GOOD ENOUGH. HOME, STEVENS.

REMIND ME TO CALL THE STATION AND COMPLIMENT THEM ON MARTA WILLIAMS' SERIES ON WILLIAM HELL. APPROVAL FROM OWNERS ENCOURAGES STATION MANAGERS.

ALSO, GET IN TOUCH WITH TRUSCOTT OVER AT EMPIRE HQ. HE SHOULD BE GETTING TWO NEW RECRUITS TONIGHT.
IF HE *WASN'T*, I WANT TO *KNOW* ABOUT IT.

VERY GOOD, MR. HELLER.

AFTER YOU'VE PARKED THE CAR, REPORT TO ME IN THE STUDY.

ERRNK!

GET OUT.
YOU PICKED UP MR. HELLER TONIGHT AS NORMAL, UNDERSTAND?
...YES...

YOU'RE TO REMIND HIM TO CALL WQRC AND COMPLIMENT THEM ON MS. WILLIAMS' WORK.
YOU'RE ALSO TO CALL TRUSCOTT AND SEE IF TWO NEW RECRUITS SHOWED UP.

THEN YOU'RE TO MEET HELLER IN THE STUDY. YOU REMEMBER NOTHING ELSE OUT OF THE ORDINARY, YES?
YES.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY-TWO)

THE PARK, AND LAFAYETTE AVENUE LEADING UP TO IT, HAS LONG BEEN A DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN THE CENTRAL CITY GHETTO AND LOWER-INCOME WHITE AREA.
RACIAL TENSION HAS ALWAYS BEEN HIGH IN THE AREA. LATELY, IT'S BEEN BOILING OVER.
THE MAN AT THE ROSTRUM IS W. JAMES HELLER, A VERY RICH AND VERY RIGHT-WING BUSINESSMAN.
HE HAS, COVERTLY OR OPENLY, FUNDED MANY WHITE SURVIVALIST, NEO-NAZI, AND/OR KKK GROUPS. FOUNDED ONE OF HIS OWN CALLED THE ARYAN EMPIRE.
THIS IS WILLIAM HELL, A NEW MASKED CRIMEFIGHTER WHO HAS BEEN WORKING LAFAYETTE AVENUE.
HE'S VOWED TO CLEAN THE AREA OF STREET CRIME, DRUG PUSHERS, AND SO FORTH.
HIS ARRESTS, HOWEVER, HAVE CONSISTED ENTIRELY OF MINORITIES--BLACKS, ASIANS, LATINOS.
5

WELL, THAT ONLY STANDS TO REASON, DON'T IT?
I MEAN, IT'S A WELL-KNOWN FACT THEY DO MOST OF THE CRIME, INNIT?
THE ONLY KNOWN CRIMINALS I SEE HERE, M'MAN, ARE WHITE.
AHHH, I'M TALKIN' STREET-CRIME HERE, TIGER, ME LAD!
WE'RE DIFFERENT, AIN'T WE? I MEAN, I DON'T SEE NO BLOODY ABO BEIN' AN ARTIST LIKE OL' CHRONOS HERE, CAN YOU?
NO OFFENSE!
NO, I'M SERIOUS HERE!
CHEEZ!
WE'LL RAISE YOUR SOCIAL CONSCIOUSNESS LATER, BOOMERANG. WITH AN AXE.
THE BLACK ORCHID--PART OF OUR ADVANCE UNIT--FOUND OUT HELLER AND HELL ARE THE SAME MAN
HE'S USING THE SYMBOLOGY OF THE MASKED HERO, OVERTLY AND COVERTLY, TO GAIN HIS RACIST ENDS. WE'VE BEEN ASKED TO DEAL WITH HIM.
LET'S JUST SHOOT HIM
AND MAKE HIM A MARTYR TO HIS CAUSE? UH-UH NEED ANOTHER WAY.
YOU KNEW HIM WHEN YOU WERE GROWING UP, DIDN'T YOU, LAWTON?
YEAH WE WERE FRIENDS... SORTA.

"WE WERE BOTH PART OF THE IDLE RICH IN THOSE DAYS. HELLER'S FAMILY WAS ALWAYS VERY COMPETITIVE.

"ALWAYS HAD TO *WIN*, NO MATTER THE MEANS.

"I COULD GET BEHIND THAT. DAMN FEW OTHERS COULD, THOUGH. WHEN YOU'RE LEFT ALONE PRETTY MUCH YOU TEND TO BECOME A LONER. HE *GOT* WHAT HE *WANTED*.

"ON A FAMILY OUTING, THEY TOOK A WRONG TURN AND RAN INTO A RACE RIOT.

"BILLY'S THE ONLY ONE SURVIVED THE ATTACK.

"JAMES HELLER, THE ELDER, BILLY'S GRANDFATHER, BECAME HIS GUARDIAN. FAMILY ALWAYS *WAS* CONSERVATIVE BUT THE OLD MAN WAS *REACTIONARY*.

"IT WAS THOUGHT HE SOLD STUFF TO THE NAZIS DURING THE WAR BUT NOBODY EVER *PINNED* ANYTHING ON HIM. FOXY OLD BASTARD.

"LOST CONTACT WITH BILL AFTER THIS, THOUGH I *HEARD* THAT WHEN THE OLD MAN DIED HE LEFT ALL HIS HOLDINGS TO BILL. THAT'S ALL I KNOW."

CAN'T JUST DEFEAT OR UNMASK HELLER. GOT TO *DISCREDIT* HIM.

HIS ARYAN EMPIRE'S HOLDING A RALLY IN MARQUIS PARK IN A FEW DAYS. SOME BLACK GROUPS HAVE THREATENED A COUNTER-DEMONSTRATION. PLACE'LL BE A *WINDERBOX*. THAT'S WHEN WE'LL MAKE *OUR* MOVE.

I HELP, IT WORKS, I KEEP MY TRAP SHUT, AND MY SENTENCE IS COMMUTED TO TIME SERVED, RIGHT?

WHICH IS WHY YOU NEED *ME* AND MY DEVICE.

THAT'S THE *DEAL*, CHRONOS.

NOW, YOU ALL LISTEN *CLOSE*. HERE'S THE *PLAN*.

TWO NIGHTS LATER...
BOOMP!
AHH, WIPEOUT, ME OLD MATE. I, CAPTAIN BOOMERANG, AM GLAD I'VE RETURNED TO CENTRAL CITY.
WITH MY OLD NEMESIS, THE FLASH, NO LONGER HERE, I AM FREE TO USE ME TRICK BOOMERANGS AND AMAZING SKILLS TO KNOCK OVER THIS BLEEDIN' ARMORED CAR!
WHO WRITES YO' DIALOGUE, MAN?
OH NO! IT'S WILLIAM HELL!
SHOOT! I SHO DIN'T PLAN NO RUMBLE WIFF HIM!
THE JIG'S UP!
WHAM!
KRAK
STUPID BLACK FOOL! SHOULDA KNOWN BETTER THAN TO PARTNER UP WITH A STUPID ABO!
I DIN'T KNOW, MAN! I DIN'T KNOW... AK!
12

MADE A LOT OF MISTAKES, BOOMERANG.
GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO CORRECT THEM
THE ARYAN EMPIRE MIGHT BE ABLE TO USE YOUR SKILLS
JOIN THEM, OR GO TO JAIL. WELL?
BEAUTY. I'LL LOB IN WITH YOUR MOB THIS ARVO.
WEEEOOOOOOOOO
POLICE
SCREEECH!
GO
THIS GUY KNOCK OVER THE COACH BY HIMSELF?
ALL I CAUGHT, OFFICER!
NAW, NAW, MAN...!
NOW HE'S ALL YOURS
NEXT TIME YOU'RE ALL MINE, BIGOT.
MONITORED YOU. BOOMERANG LAID IT ON A BIT THICK
SUBTLETY'S NOT HIS STRONG POINT, COLONEL.
STAGE IS ALL SET. LET'S CLEAR THIS UP BEFORE THE REAL COPS ARRIVE.

MARQUIS PARK. TWO NIGHTS LATER...

...AND SINCE THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACTS, WHAT HAVE WE SEEN?

WE HAVE SEEN THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE WELFARE STATE! WE HAVE SEEN THE PERVASIVENESS OF DRUGS AND PORNOGRAPHY!

FITE FOR US!

GIVE 'EM HELL!

WE HAVE SEEN THE STANDARDS OF OUR UNIVERSITIES ERODED TO ACCOMMODATE THE ILLITERATE, THE UNEDUCABLE.

IN SHORT, WE HAVE NOT SEEN THEM RAISED TO OUR LEVEL, BUT RATHER THEY HAVE DRAGGED OUR SOCIETY DOWN TO THEIRS!

DRAG YOU DOWN OFF THAT PODIUM, SLICKER!

EASY!

WHO PAYS THE PRICE FOR ALL THIS? YOU DO! YOU, THE COMMON MAN!

WHO SPEAKS, WHO ACTS, FOR THE COMMON MAN?!

I DO!

I... WILLIAM HELL!

HELL! HELL!

HELL!

HELL!

HELL!

I'LL TAKE THE PODIUM.
WON'T MINCE WORDS. YOU ALL KNOW ME. WHAT I DO. WHAT I STAND FOR.
YOU'RE DECENT FOLKS. YOU WORK HARD. YOU SACRIFICE FOR YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR COUNTRY. YOU RESPECT AND OBEY THE LAW.
NO ONE EVER GAVE YOU NOTHING. YOU MADE WHAT YOU GOT. YOU STRUGGLE TO KEEP IT.
ONLY ONE WAY TO DO THAT. YOU GOT TO STICK TOGETHER, AND I MEAN ALL TOGETHER--BLACK, WHITE, LATINO, WHAT HAVE YOU! THE ONLY POWER YOU GOT COMES FROM YOUR NUMBERS!
THOSE IN CHARGE KNOW THAT! AND WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO KEEP YOU UNDER CONTROL? HATE! KEEP YOU SEPARATE FROM THOSE WITH WHICH YOU SHOULD HAVE SOMETHING IN COMMON!
AND YOU FALL FOR IT... EVERY TIME!
GET THIS THROUGH YOUR HEADS--BLACK, WHITE, WHATEVER, YOU'RE ALL THE "LITTLE GUY" AND ANYTHING--ANY RIGHT, ANY FREEDOM--THEY CAN TAKE FROM THE NEXT GUY THEY CAN TAKE FROM YOU. AND THAT'S A FACT.
WHATEVER HELLER'S AFTER SURE AIN'T IN YOUR BEST INTEREST!
LIAR!
IMPOSTOR!
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE MAN YOU'VE BEEN LISTENING TO IS A FRAUD!
I AM THE REAL WILLIAM HELL!
STREWTH! YOU BOTH LOOK THE FAIR DINKUM ARTICLE TO ME!
TELL YOU WHAT. WE'LL DETERMINE EVERYTHING BY A TEST OF SKILL. WHAT SAY, EH?
WHAT KIND OF TEST?

WILLIAM TELL SHOT AN APPLE OFF HIS KID'S HEAD, DIN'T HE?

FINE. WE'LL SHOOT ONE OFF YOURS.

BLOODY HELL! THIS AIN'T THE BLOODY SCRIPT!

OWOWOWOWOW! IT'S ATTACHED, YA DAMN DRONGO!
SECURE HIM TO THE TREE.

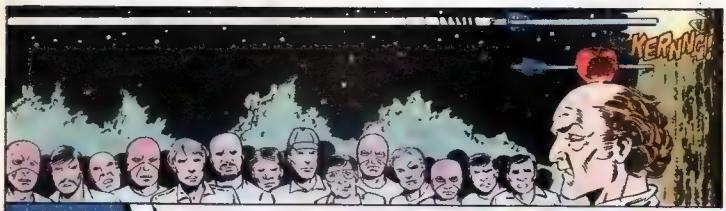
HEY! THEY'RE MURDERIN' ME HERE!
STREWTH! CAN'T FIND A BLOODY COPPER WHEN YA NEED ONE!

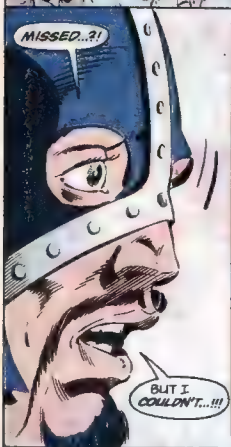
ONE SIDE!
UH-UH. WE'RE GONNA WATCH DIS!

NOW DON'T MOVE.

IT MIGHT THROW MY AIM OFF.

FIRST COME, FIRST SHOOT... IMPOSTOR.
TWANGG!
HELL! HELL! HELL!
MAKE OR BREAK, BOZO


KERNNG!


MISSED...?!
BUT I COULDN'T...!!!

BUT YOU DID!
BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT REALLY WILLIAM HELL!

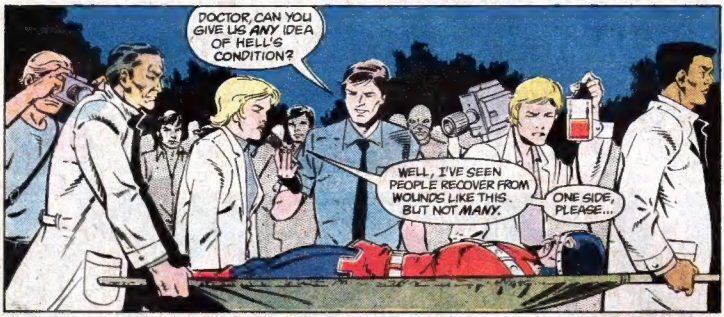
YOU'RE JAMES HELLER!

HELLER AND HIS MEN CAPTURED ME! HELLER WANTED TO TAKE MY PLACE; TWIST MY WORK TO THEIR ENDS!

BUT I MANAGED TO BREAK FREE IN TIME TO CONFRONT AND DEFEAT HIM!

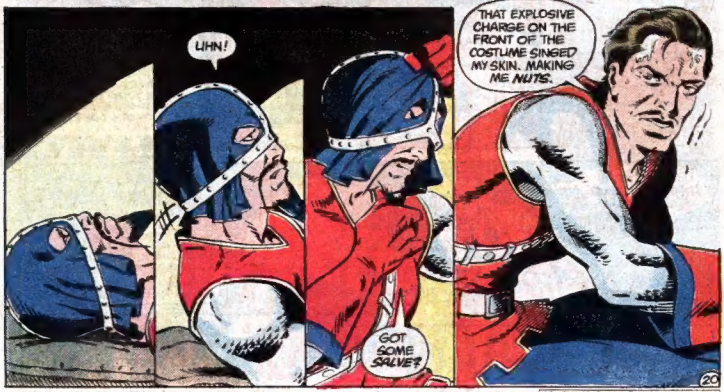
NOW YOU KNOW THE TRUTH!
HELL! HELL!

BLAM!
OMIGAWD HE SHOT--!
ONE OF HELLER'S MEN!
GEODEM!
SHWOMP!
KILLER'S DISAPPEARED IN THAT SMOKE BOMB!
THEN NAB HELLER!
THIS IS ALL A SET-UP. YOU KNOW THAT.
I KNOW IF WE DON'T GET YOU OUT OF HERE THESE BLASTS OF BLUE (TEAR YOU APART)!
BEEEEEEEEEEE
AMBULANCE
SKREECH!
LET'S MOVE IT! THIS GUY LOOKS PRETTY BAD!

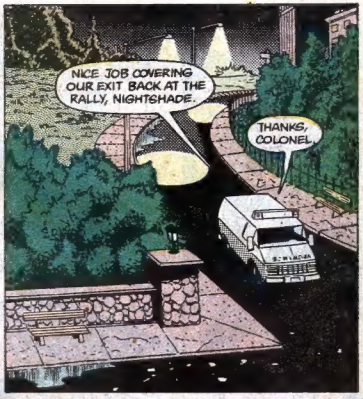

DOCTOR, CAN YOU GIVE US ANY IDEA OF HELL'S CONDITION?
WELL, I'VE SEEN PEOPLE RECOVER FROM WOUNDS LIKE THIS... BUT NOT MANY.
ONE SIDE, PLEASE...

ALL PACKED?
LET'S GO.
AMBULANCE

AMBULANCE
REEEEEEEEEEEEE


UHN!
GOT SOME SALVE?
THAT EXPLOSIVE CHARGE ON THE FRONT OF THE COSTUME SINGED MY SKIN. MAKING ME NUTS.

CHEEZ, WHEN YOU SHOT DEADSHOT WITH THAT BLANK, I FAIR HAD THE JIMMY BRITS!
YOU COULD HAVE WARNED ME, COLONEL! I MEAN, A BLOKE'D THINK YOU DIDN'T TRUST HIM TO KEEP HIS MOUTH SHUT!
AMBULANCE
YEAH.
THERE'S THE AMBULANCE, RIGHT ON SCHEDULE.


NICE JOB COVERING OUR EXIT BACK AT THE RALLY, NIGHTSHADE.
THANKS, COLONEL.

AND THANK YOU, TOO, CAPTAIN BOOMERANG! YOU WAS THE ONE WITH THE BLEEDIN' APPLE ON HIS HEAD, AFTER ALL!
YOU WERE IN NO REAL DANGER, BOOMERANG.

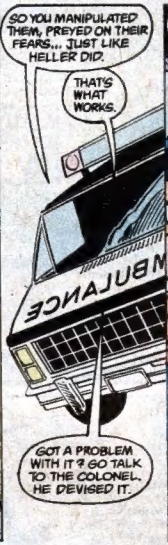
WE PARKED OUR AMBULANCE RIGHT IN WITH OTHER LEGITIMATE ONES CALLED IN CASE OF RIOT.

OH, I'M SO HAPPY FOR YOU! WAS THE VIEW NICE?
GOOD ENOUGH TO LET THEM KNOW JUST WHEN TO FIRE UP CHRONOS' TIME-DELAY MACHINE.

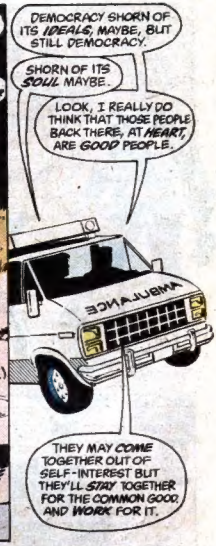
"ENCHANTRESS SUPPLIED THE SPARK SO THAT EVERYTHING STOOD STILL, EXCEPT FOR THE BRONZE TIGER WHO WAS WEARING THE NEUTRALIZER.
"LET HIM SLIP IN AND DEFLECT HELLER'S BOLT. REAL SWEET. NOT EVEN THE CAMERAS SAW IT BECAUSE THEY WERE IN THE FIELD."

WHEN HELLER SHOT HIS BOLT? WHAT ABOUT YOU?
COULDN'T. MACHINE'S UNSTABLE. THREATENED TO FUSE SOLID ON THE FIRST TRY.
TOLD 'EM I DIDN'T NEED IT; THAT I COULD DO IT WITH MY EYES CLOSED. DID, TOO.
WHAT?!?

NICE APPEAL TO THEIR PATRIOTISM IN THAT SPEECH, LAWTON.
I HIT THEM WITH WHAT THEY UNDERSTOOD, LADY. IF THEY'D BELIEVED IN BROTHERHOOD AND EQUALITY AND ALL THAT HOOEY, THIS WHOLE SITUATION'D NEVER'VE COME UP.


SO YOU MANIPULATED THEM, PREYED ON THEIR FEARS... JUST LIKE HELLER DID.
THAT'S WHAT WORKS.
GOT A PROBLEM WITH IT? GO TALK TO THE COLONEL. HE DEVISED IT.

WAS THAT SPEECH YOUR IDEA OF PATRIOTISM THEN, COLONEL?
PATRIOTISM? NO. DEMOCRACY? YES.
PEOPLE BANDING TOGETHER, IF NOT IN THE COMMON GOOD, THEN IN ENLIGHTENED SELF-INTEREST.


DEMOCRACY SHORN OF ITS IDEALS, MAYBE, BUT STILL DEMOCRACY.
SHORN OF ITS SOUL MAYBE.
LOOK, I REALLY DO THINK THAT THOSE PEOPLE BACK THERE, AT HEART, ARE GOOD PEOPLE.
THEY MAY COME TOGETHER OUT OF SELF-INTEREST BUT THEY'LL STAY TOGETHER FOR THE COMMON GOOD, AND WORK FOR IT.

AND IT'S WORTH WORKING FOR... FIGHTING FOR. EVEN DYING FOR, IF IT COMES TO THAT.
AND LIVING FOR, COLONEL? ARE YOU WILLING TO DO THAT?
IF I HAVE TO, EVE.

YOU REALIZE THAT WITHOUT HELL'S BODY, THE LEGAL CASE AGAINST HELLER-- IF THERE IS ANY-- WILL GO UP IN SMOKE.
DOESN'T MATTER. HE'S ALREADY CONVICTED IN THE COURT WE WANTED: COURT OF PUBLIC OPINION.

WE'VE DESTROYED HIS ABILITY TO MANIPULATE IT.
FOR NOW.
NOW'S ALL WE'RE ASKING FOR.

WE'LL FIGHT THE BATTLES AS THEY COME. ONE BY ONE.
IT'S THE BEST ANY OF US CAN DO.
AMBULANCE
FIN.